



Notes:

Per Wis. Stat. § 83.025(2), "The county trunk system shall be marked and maintained by the county." The Wisconsin Supreme Court has concluded that the area adjacent to the paved portion of the highway, commonly known as the shoulder, is part of the highway as that term is used in Wis. Stat. § 81.15 (regarding damages caused by highway defects). See Morris v. Juneau County, 219 Wis. 2d 543, 579 N.W.2d 690 (1998). In interpreting the meaning of "highway" in Wis. Stat. § 81.15, the Morris Court looked to the definition of "highway" in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(22), which "includes the entire width between the boundary lines of every way open to the use of the public as a matter of right for the purposes of vehicular travel." As it applies to a municipal intersection with a county highway, the county is responsible for the roadway maintenance of the county highway for the purposes of vehicular travel for county highway traffic, which is at the edge of shoulder. The municipal roadway begins (for maintenance purposes) at the edge of shoulder of the county highway.

Therefore:

- 1. The municipality is responsible for all costs associated with the construction and/or maintenance of the municipal roadway up to the edge of pavement of the county highway.
- 2. The municipality is responsible for all costs associated with construction and/or maintenance of culvert or bridge structures that carry water under the municipal roadway in line with the county highway ditch line.
- The municipality is responsible for all costs associated with the initial installation of traffic control devices at the intersection. The County is responsible for all costs associated with maintaining traffic control devices at the intersection.